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If not, it nevertheless secretes materials which may produce pigment changes independent of the conditions of the environment.

These facts suggest explanation of the somewhat diverse and even at times discordant behavior of pigments.

#### COOPERATIVE TECHNIQUE

McClung (*Anat. Rec.* 12:3, April 1917) suggests the need and value of combination and cooperation in respect to microscopical research, similar to that which has proved so effective in business. To this end he proposes a concerted series of studies upon the technical processes as such, by people prepared to extend these over a wide range of research. These results would be reduced to the most compact form and published together. In addition there might be built up at some central place a collection of actual preparations illustrating the use of these methods, each the work of an expert in the particular field. These slides (or other form of object) might be subject to loan to other microscopical anatomists.

#### FIXATION OF MAMMALIAN CHROMOSOMES

Hance (*Anat. Rec.* 12:3, April 1, 1917) reports studies illustrative of the view-point of Professor McClung in the preceding abstract. His task was to find processes that would give best results in revealing chromosome conditions in mammals. Two desiderata are held in view:—the general fixation must be such as to avoid shrinkage and distortion; and the method must so far as possible lead to distinctness, differentiation, and separateness of the chromosomes in the various stages.

The method most fully meeting these ends is outlined as follows:

1. To be sure of getting one or more specimens in a "cycle of division," material should be taken from as many animals as possible.
2. Place small or finely teased pieces of fresh tissue immediately into cold Flemming's solution, plus urea. This should act 20-24, or more, hours.